

# In Memory of Pierre “Pete” J. Simard



This report is dedicated to the memory of Pete Simard. Pete was a twenty-five year veteran of the Auburn Fire Department, where he attained the rank of Deputy Chief and was the first full-time Fire Prevention and Investigation Officer, retiring in 1994. During his career in the fire department, Pete started the Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Program for the City of Auburn. Following his retirement from the Auburn Fire Department, Pete served for eight years with the Office of State Fire Marshal. Pete’s contributions and accomplishments to the fire service in the State of Maine are well known. All will miss him.

# MEFIRS 2003 ANNUAL REPORT

## Foreword

The Office of State Fire Marshal in cooperation with the Maine Fire Chief's Association provides the following report. This report is a direct result of the incident data provided by departments that reported to the Maine Fire Information Reporting System. The data imported to the Fire Marshal's Office has been validated using the NFIRS 5.0 Data Entry / Validation Tool, Version 5.3 for completeness and accuracy. During the import of local fire department data into the State's MEFIRS data server, any corrective action needed by fire departments is returned for additional attention. As a result of these quality assurance activities, the data maintained and reported is an accurate summary of the incident event as it happened and recorded within the National Fire Incident Reporting System standards.

Upon completion of the data validation process, the Office of State Fire Marshal exports the cumulative State MEFIRS data to the U.S. Fire Administration. Following the export of the State of Maine MEFIRS data to the U.S. Fire Administration, it is released for fire service and public access.

The MEFIRS 2003 Annual Report has been generated using the Web-based Reporting Tool of the National Fire Incident Reporting System. The NFIRS 5.0 Web-based reports utilize Actuate information delivery technology in providing summary and statistical information from fire department and incident data saved to the National Database. Report executables are predefined according to NFIRS 5.0 reporting requirements established by the U.S. Fire Administration. Two types of reports have been included in this report. Management reports, which provide summary information as specified by the report query, and reports with user-specified parameters have been populated with data provided by the Fire Departments of the State of Maine for the development of this report.



JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI

GOVERNOR

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August 2004

To All Members of Maine's Fire Service Community:

We are pleased to present the fire data from calendar year 2003. This data represents information collected in the seventh year of the Maine Fire Incident Reporting System (MEFIRS).

This is the first year that all fire data has been collected in-house. This is an exciting change in the system that allows us better control over the accuracy of the data through a quality assurance system. It also allows us to study the data collected using detailed search requirements, resulting in reports that can be used to find the answers to very specific questions. This system has already proven to be of value to individual departments who have needed data analysis for important strategic planning purposes. As our volume of data expands, we will be better equipped to study trends and, in general, get a better handle on Maine's fire issues.

I am very pleased with the format of this year's report and am especially grateful for the work of Assistant State Fire Marshal Joe Thomas. Joe manages all of the data and is responsible for the design of this report. Joe represents Maine on the National Fire Information Council (NFIC) and is the Program Manager for our office. Please contact him at 626-3872 on any matters involving the MEFIRS system.

### **MEFIRS- FIGHTING FIRES WITH FACTS**

Sincerely,

John C. Dean  
State Fire Marshal

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